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FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5465
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0160
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0282
RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 6569
RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH 0246
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
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STATE FOR AF/W; AF/EPS (S. BRUNDAGE, A. ADLER J. HAENI); EB/CBA (D. WINSTEAD) USDOC FOR 4510/MAC/OA/PMICHELINI/HVINEYARD 3131/CS/ANESA/OIO/RD/DHARRIS/GLITMAN/MSTAUNTO N DAKAR FOR RSCO CGRIFFIN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ECON EFIN EINV MR

SUBJECT: CHINA GETTING ALL FIRST OIL; WOODSIDE AND MAURITANIA CLOSE TO SIGNING NEW PSC

(U) Key Points

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- -- Three shipments of Mauritania's first oil have been exported since March 20, all to China, totaling 2.9 million barrels.
- -- A new PSC between Woodside and the transitional government is in its final stages as the group exported its third shipment of crude oil to China.

End Key Points.

- 11. (SBU) Woodside Country Manager Jon Ozturgut told DCM that the Australian oil company and the transitional government are just days away from completing a new PSC. The draft must then be approved by the other partners in the group before it is signed. The transitional government will receive \$100 million 14 days after signing.
- 12. (U) Three shipments of crude oil have been exported since March 20, all to China, totaling 2.9 million barrels. This has exceeded the Woodside-led group expectations of 2.5 million barrels by June 2006.
- 13. (U) In addition to the Chinguitty field, where the production is currently being developed, other fields around Chinguitty are very promising. According to the Ministry of Oil sources, the Tevet field could contain around 80 million barrels of oil and the Tiof field 300 million barrels, compared to 125 million barrels in the Chinguitty field. Tevet is located around 10 kilometers northeast of the Chinguitty field and Tiof is located approximately 25 kilometers north of the Chinguitty field. The Ministry of Oil and Energy authorities are now looking for some large oil companies with the technology to conduct oil and gas research in Mauritanian deep waters where they hope to find more oil and gas reserves.

LeBaron LeBaron